



Docket No. 0905-0233P

Appl. No.: 09/549,044

Art Unit: 2612

Amendment dated August 16, 2004

Reply to Office Action of April 14, 2004

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A digital still camera comprising:
an imaging device for imaging a subject and outputting image data
representing an image of the subject;

an image pickup theme setting device for setting an image pickup theme;

a frame number storage device for storing, for the image pickup theme
set by said image pickup theme setting device, a last frame number of a
plurality of frame numbers assigned at the time of imaging;

a frame number increment device for incrementing, every time the
subject is imaged by said imaging device, the last frame number for the image
pickup theme set by said image pickup theme setting device out of the frame
numbers stored in said frame number storage device;

a storage control device for controlling said frame number storage device
such that the last frame number incremented by said frame number increment
device is stored for the corresponding image pickup theme; and

an image data recording control device for recording on a first recording
medium data representing the last frame number incremented by said frame
number increment device and the image data outputted from said imaging
device by the imaging under the image pickup theme set by said image pickup
theme setting device with the data and the image data related to each other,

wherein said frame number storage device retains said last frame number and said frame number increment device incrementally increases said assigned frame number starting from said last frame number if a new recording medium replaces said first recording medium.

2. (ORIGINAL) The digital still camera according to claim 1, wherein said image pickup theme setting device comprises

an image pickup theme storage device for storing a plurality of image pickup themes; and

an image pickup theme selection device for selecting the image pickup theme out of the image pickup themes stored in said image pickup theme storage device.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of controlling a digital still camera, comprising the steps of:

allowing an image pickup theme to be set;

storing, for the set image pickup theme, a last frame number of a plurality of frame numbers assigned at the time of imaging;

imaging a subject, to obtain image data representing an image of the subject;

incrementing, every time the subject is imaged, the last frame number for the set image pickup theme out of the stored frame numbers;

storing the incremented last frame number for the corresponding image pickup theme; ~~and~~

recording on a first recording medium data representing the incremented last frame number and the image data obtained by the imaging under the set image pickup theme with the data and the image data related to each other, and

replacing said recording medium with a new recording medium, wherein said last frame number is retained and said assigned frame number is incrementally increased starting from said last frame number if the new recording medium replaces said first recording medium.

4. (NEW) The digital still camera according to claim 1, wherein said new recording medium is said first recording medium with a cleared memory.

5. (NEW) The digital still camera according to claim 1, wherein said frame number storage device stores said last frame number in a flash memory and said first recording medium is a memory card.

6. (NEW) The method according to claim 3, wherein said new recording medium is said first recording medium with a cleared memory.

7. (NEW) The method according to claim 3, wherein said last frame number is stored in a flash memory and said first recording medium is a memory card.